



INSIGHTS

107th Congress

June 17, 2002

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INSIGHTS is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of ***INSIGHTS*** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. ***INSIGHTS*** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

HOUSE

This week, the House will hold one field hearing of interest:

- The potential for an increase in renewable energy to expand domestic job growth

SENATE

This week, the Senate will hold two hearings of interest:

- S. 2607- to establish as permanent, the Recreation Fee Demonstration program in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior
- *Climate Action 2002* report prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES/VOTES

Energy Legislation Last week, the House approved the selection of a total of 44 conferees; committee to include 28 Republican and 16 Democratic members to serve on the conference committee on comprehensive energy legislation. Eleven committees are represented on the committee. Conferees and their areas of interest include the following:

REPUBLICANS	COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	DEMOCRATS	COMMITTEES /SUBCOMMITTEES
Tom Delay (TX)	Majority Whip		
Billy Tauzin (LA)	Energy and Commerce, <i>Chair</i>	John Dingle (MI)	Energy and Commerce, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Michael Bilirakis (FL)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Health, <i>Chair</i>		
Joe Barton (TX)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, <i>Chair</i> ; Subcommittee on Health and Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Member</i>	Rick Boucher (VA)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Fred Upton (MI)	Energy and Commerce - Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Chair</i> and Subcommittee on Health, <i>Member</i>	Ed Markey (MA)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Cliff Stearns (FL)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, <i>Chair</i> ; Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and Subcommittee on	Henry Waxman (CA)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, Energy and Air Quality, and Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials <i>Member</i>

REPUBLICANS	COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	DEMOCRATS	COMMITTEES /SUBCOMMITTEES
	Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Member</i>		
Paul Gillmor (OH)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, <i>Chair</i> ; Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Member</i>	Bart Gordon (TN)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection and Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, <i>Member</i>
Richard Burr (NC)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, Subcommittee on Health, and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, <i>Member</i>	Bobby Rush (IL)	Energy and Commerce – Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet <i>Member</i>
Jim Nussle (R/IO)	Committee on the Budget, <i>Chair</i>	Dennis Moore (KS)	Committee on the Budget, <i>Member</i>
Gil Gutknecht (R/MN)	Committee on the Budget, <i>Member</i>		
Jim Hansen (UT)	Committee on Resources, <i>Chair</i>	Nick Rahall (WV)	Committee on Resources, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Barbara Cubin (WY)	Committee on Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, <i>Chair</i>		
Sherman Boehlert (NY)	Committee on Science, <i>Chair</i>	Ralph Hall (TX)	Committee on Science, <i>Member</i>
Roscoe Bartlett (MD)	Committee on Science, Subcommittee on Energy, <i>Chair</i>		
Don Young (AK)	Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, <i>Chair</i>	James Oberstar (MN)	Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Thomas Petri (WI)	Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure – Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, <i>Chair</i>		
Larry Combest (TX)	Committee on Agriculture, <i>Chair</i>	Charles Stenholm (TX)	Committee on Agriculture, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Frank Lucas (OK)	Committee on Agriculture - Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Rural Development, and Research, <i>Chair</i>		
Bob Stump (AZ)	Committee on Armed Services, <i>Chair</i>	Ike Skelton (MO)	Committee on Armed Services, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Curt Weldon (PA)	Committee on Armed Services - Subcommittee on Military Procurement, <i>Chair</i>		
Bill Thomas	Committee on Ways and Means,	Charles	Committee on Ways and Means,

REPUBLICANS	COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE	DEMOCRATS	COMMITTEES /SUBCOMMITTEES
(CA)	<i>Chair</i>	Rangel (NY)	<i>Ranking Member</i>
Jim McCrery (LA)	Committee on Ways and Means - Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures, <i>Chair</i>		
Mike Oxley (OH)	Committee on Financial Services, <i>Chair</i>	John LaFalce (NY)	Committee on Financial Services, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Marge Roukema (NJ)	Committee on Financial Services – Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, <i>Chair</i>		
James Sensenbrenner (WI)	Committee on the Judiciary, <i>Chair</i>	John Conyers (MI)	Committee on the Judiciary, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Lamar Smith (TX)	Committee on the Judiciary – Subcommittee on Crime, <i>Chair</i>		
Howard McKeon (CA)	Committee on Education and the Workforce – Subcommittee on Twenty-First Century Competitiveness, <i>Chair</i>	George Miller (CA)	Committee on Education and the Workforce, <i>Ranking Member</i>
Charles Norwood (GA)	Committee on Education and the Workforce – Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, <i>Chair</i>		

No decision has been made on whether the House or Senate will chair the conference committee. Chairman Billy Tauzin was quoted last week as saying the conferees will negotiate “issue by issue” rather than the bill as a whole. Preliminary discussions may occur this week to establish conference negotiation ground rules with the conferees meeting in earnest after the Fourth of July Holiday recess; however, no member or committee staff will make a firm projection regarding a schedule.

FY 2002 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Conferees for the House and Senate have been selected and conferees are tentatively expected to begin meeting later this week on *H.R. 4775*. The committee hopes to complete work on FY 2002 supplemental appropriations prior to the next Congressional recess (Fourth of July Holiday). The House Leadership wants to attach to the bill an increase in the debt ceiling to \$5.95 trillion and FY 2003 discretionary spending limit of \$759 billion; the Senate Leadership is opposed to these recommendations. The House bill provides \$28.8 billion and the Senate bill totals \$31 billion, both above the President’s request of \$27 billion. The bill provides funding for increasing the security of Federal facilities, enhancing national defense measures, and allocating funds to address restoration issues associated with the New York City terrorist attacks.

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II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

FY 2003 Military Construction Appropriations Last week, the Subcommittee on Military Construction (Committee on Appropriations) released general details of the proposed FY 2003 Military Construction budget. Totalling \$9.54 billion, the proposed budget is \$522 million below the FY 2002 appropriated level, but \$541 million above the President’s FY 2003 budget request. The request includes the following:

Military Construction Projects - \$5.3 billion and includes:

- \$1.2 billion for barracks
- \$18 million for child development centers
- \$151 million for hospital and medical facilities

Family Housing - \$4.2 billion and includes:

- \$1.3 billion for new family housing units and improvements to existing units
- \$2.9 billion for operation and maintenance of existing units

Base Realignment and Closure - \$545 million and includes:

- \$60 million for operations and maintenance, permanent change of station, other costs, and offsetting reductions

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SENATE

Department of Homeland Defense Responding to President Bush's plan to absorb 169,000 employees and \$37.4 billion from agencies for the Department of Homeland Defense, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Chairman, Jeff Bingaman (D/NM), requested that the plan be expanded to include the resources and expertise of all 11 DOE national laboratories. In a letter sent to the President last week, Mr. Bingaman asked that, "as you refine your proposal to Congress, you integrate the full capacity across the DOE." He also pointed out that utilizing the national laboratories would not require transferring any laboratory out of DOE's jurisdiction.

FY 2003 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations On June 13, Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior, testified before the Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies (Committee on Appropriations) regarding the President's FY 2003 budget request for the Department. The \$10.6 billion request is 21 percent higher than the FY 2001 appropriation level of \$8.6 billion. **The FY 2003 request includes \$663.0 million for facility maintenance and construction, including required planning and compliance work. The request also proposes a \$17.6 million increase to support facility repair and rehabilitation, which includes \$8.4 million to address the deferred maintenance and critical resource protection backlog.**

The FY 2003 budget request proposes that the existing recreational demonstration fee program (which provides additional funds to deferred maintenance projects) be permanently authorized. The Department will likely receive \$146.1 million from the program in FY 2003.

The FY 2003 budget request assumes that Congress will authorize a lease sale in Alaska's Arctic Refuge in 2004 with projected earnings of \$2.4 billion in bonus bids. **Of this amount, the Federal Government's \$1.2 billion share will be dedicated to research and development projects on biomass power and fuels, geothermal energy, solar power, wind energy, and other alternative energy technologies.**

The FY 2003 request more than doubles funding for renewable energy programs in the Bureau of Land Management. The Bureau is requesting an increase of \$750,000 to expand opportunities for geothermal, hydropower, and wind energy production.

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III. NEW LEGISLATION

(Note: Once a new bill is introduced, the Government Printing Office generally requires from several days to one week to make the bill available in print)

HOUSE

There is no new legislation of interest to report.

SENATE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
S. 2599	<i>Water Supply Technologies Act of 2002</i>	June 6	Pete Domenici (R/NM)	Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works
	<p>Establishes a Water Supply Technologies Program within DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Appoints new Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water Supply Technologies. ➤ Program shall consist of arsenic removal program, desalinization program, water and energy sustainability program, and water supply security program. ➤ Water and Energy Sustainability Program will establish a coordinated strategy to identify technology development and improved modeling capabilities needed to achieve the goal of continued water and energy sustainability; develop modeling and decision analysis tools to assess and manage water demand; and carry out demonstration projects. ➤ Program will collaborate with water management agencies, universities, industry, and stakeholder groups to define issues and needs and develop a coordinated science and technology strategy to support future water use decisions that include issues of energy sustainability. ➤ Within one year of enactment, Deputy Assistant Secretary shall submit to Congress recommendations for a management structure and research and development plan for the water and energy sustainability program that optimizes the use of Federal resources and programs. 			
S. 2607	<i>Federal Lands Recreation Fee Authority Act</i>	June 11	Jeff Bingaman (D/NM)	Referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
	<p>Authorizes Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to collect recreation fees on Federal lands; the program, which is in place at 365 Federal land sites across the U.S, is scheduled to expire in 2004.</p> <p>Fees shall be used to fund resource preservation activities, backlogged repair and maintenance projects (including projects related to health and safety), interpretation, signage, habitat for facility enhancement, law enforcement related to public use, maintenance, and direct operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program.</p>			

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IV. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

Renewable Power On June 12, Secretary Abrahams announced at an industry forum that he has directed all Department of Energy field offices to acquire 140 million kilowatt hours of power from renewable energy resources by the year 2005. This exceeds the government-wide goal of 2.5 percent by .5 percent. This directive follows an April 2002 announcement in which the Secretary directed DOE's Washington, DC, and Germantown, Maryland, Headquarters offices to purchase 17 percent of their power from renewable energy. In his remarks, the Secretary said that it is his goal for DOE to "dedicate itself to using renewable energy" by becoming the first Executive Branch agency to do so. He believes the agency should "lead by example" to encourage other agencies to follow DOE's lead. In response to questions, the Secretary said that he has not provided the field offices with specific goals since "each region has a different structure." Secretary Abraham made his announcement at the Energy Efficiency Forum in Washington, DC. His comments regarding Federal energy management are provided below.

Our Federal Energy Management Program not only responded to last year's California shortage by finding ways the federal government could reduce energy use around the nation, particularly during peak load periods, but it has led the Government's successful efforts to reduce energy use across the board.

Since 1985 we have reduced the federal government's energy load by 23 percent in standard buildings. And the Department of Energy has done much better than that. DOE used 43.5 percent less energy in 2001 than we did in 1985, and we expect to increase our efficiency by 2 percent per year going ahead.

Moreover we are promoting life cycle cost analysis for new federal buildings. This is a difficult challenge since budget constraints often force project managers to cut corners on energy efficiency features that may cost a little more up front, but pay for themselves many times over during the life of the building. This is a mindset that we must change.

On top of this, we also want the Federal Government to use more renewable energy.

I recently announced DOE's decision to purchase 17 percent of the electricity for our main Forrestal and Germantown headquarters buildings from renewable resources.

That is a remarkable figure. But even more remarkable is the fact that we did so by negotiating costs that were comparable to or even a bit lower than what we had been paying for conventional resources.

We are showing by our example that this can be done.

I am pleased today to announce the next steps in our efforts to promote renewable energy purchases at DOE and throughout the federal government.

I am directing the Western Area Power Administration to join Bonneville Power in instituting a Renewable Energy Credit or "Green Tags" program. Such a program allows customers who want to support green power to purchase it or its "environmental attributes." Such credits can help create new demand for renewable power, and thus help promote new renewable power projects in the region.

But we also want to purchase renewable energy for our own use, so I am also announcing that we have challenged the Department to obtain at least 140 million kilowatt hours of its electricity annually from renewable resources by 2005. I expect our field managers to follow the example we've set at headquarters.

Of course, we will continue to employ Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs) and other market-based tools that many in this room have helped to pioneer, because an energy efficiency improvement brings superior environmental advantages compared to even the most benign forms of energy production.

Electricity Restructuring Last week, it was revealed that the Administration favors the Senate proposal in their version of comprehensive energy legislation to provide the Federal Energy Regulatory Authority (FERC) with greater authority over the transmission of Federal power. In correspondence prepared by the Council on Economic Advisors (CEQ) and obtained by the media, the CEQ believes that FERC should have jurisdiction over the Tennessee Power Authority's (TVA) transmission grid; a measure opposed by TVA. The organization has said that TVA currently operates on guidelines similar to those imposed by the commission.

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V. HEARINGS SCHEDULE

HOUSE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings, mark ups, or votes of interest to report.

HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

Date/Committee	Chair	Hearing Title/Issues	Witnesses	Time/Location
<i>June 17</i> – Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs (Committee on Government Reform) <i>(NEW)</i>	Doug Ose (R/CA)	<i>Field Hearing</i> – The potential for an increase in renewable energy to expand job growth	George Sterzinger, Renewable Energy Policy Project; Steve Bernow, Tellus Institute; David Fairman, Consensus Building Institute; Bryon Swift, Environmental Law Institute Center for Energy, Economy, and Innovation; Roger Little, Spire Corp;	11:00 a.m. Wiggins Auditorium Peabody City Hall, Peabody, MA

SENATE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings, mark ups, or votes of interest to report.

SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

Date/Committee	Chair	Hearing Title/Issues	Witnesses	Time/Location
<i>June 19</i> – Committee on Energy and Natural Resources <i>(NEW)</i>	Jeff Bingaman (D/NM)	<i>Hearing</i> – S. 2607- to establish as permanent, the Recreation Fee Demonstration program in the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior	TBA	9:30 a.m. Room 366 Dirksen Office Building
<i>June 20</i> – Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere and Fisheries	John Kerry (D/MA)	<i>Hearing</i> – Examine global climate change issues; focus on recently released. <i>Climate Action 2002</i>	Representatives for the Environmental Protection Agency, the	10:00 a.m. Room 253 Russell Office Building

Date/Committee	Chair	Hearing Title/Issues	Witnesses	Time/Location
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Resources <i>(NEW)</i>		report prepared by the Environmental Protection Agency	Departments of Commerce and Transportation, and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy	

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS/FLOOR VOTES

There is no scheduled activity of interest to report.

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